

# 20 Things You May Not Have Known About Sussex County

- The County Seat was moved from Lewes to Georgetown in 1791.
- Geographically, Sussex County makes up 49 percent of the total land statewide - 960 square miles.
- 53.2 percent of new residential construction in Delaware took place in Sussex County in 2005.
- The Republican party has only had majority control of the County Council in the body's 34-year history, for one election term, from 1986 to 1988.
- Sussex County ranks first among all United States counties in broiler chicken production according to the United States Department of Commerce.
- According to a study performed by the United States Census Bureau, retail sales, per capita, in Sussex County exceeded that for New Castle and Kent counties.
- The tax rate in Sussex County has remained consistent since the President George H.W. Bush administration.
- The Sussex County Finance Department was recognized for 3 consecutive years of outstanding accomplishments in reporting financial spending, most recently in 2005. The County Government was recognized by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada with a "Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting."
- Tourism is responsible for employing more than 7,700 people in Sussex County, with an estimated economic impact of more than \$420 million annually.
- There are 254 Agricultural Preservation Districts now in Sussex County.

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- County Government maintains 647 miles of underground sanitary sewer pipe and 256 pump stations.
- More people are moving to Sussex County than are being born here. According to population statistics, the majority of new residents in Sussex County in 2005 – 94 percent – were the result of “external migration,” or people moving into the county from elsewhere. The balance was from natural increase (the difference between births and deaths). In Kent County, 80 percent of that county’s population increase in 2005 was from external migration; in New Castle County, external migration made up just 28 percent of the total population increase there.
- According to the Delaware Office of Vital Statistics, an average of 8 babies will be born a week to Spanish-speaking parents in Sussex County for the foreseeable future.
- During calendar year 2005, paramedics responded to 14,796 calls, or 1.68 calls per hour.
- Sussex County’s unemployment rate in 2005 was 3.7 percent. This compares to 4.2 percent for the State of Delaware and 5.1 percent for the nation, also in 2005.
- Charles Cole, his wife Kitty, and son George are the only people who have ever represented the 4th Councilmanic District on the Sussex County Council.
- Sussex County is within an 8-hour drive of one-third of the population of the United States.
- Sussex County has long been noted as the birthplace for the commercial broiler industry, Mrs. Wilmer Steele of Ocean View started with 500 chickens in 1923.
- There are 18 public and private golf courses in Sussex County, including 2 Jack Nicklaus courses.
- The Town of Milton has 188 homes on the National Register of Historic Places.